



The Jumpstart on an Elite Career

High tech, complex cutting edge systems
and computers.



Navy Journalists are Public Affairs specialists. They gather news about people, places and activities in the Navy, and issues that affect their military communities, then broadcast this information to military and civilian communities through radio, television, military publications, Internet sites and hometown newspapers. They serve as spokesmen for the Navy, often working with civilian television and radio stations and local newspapers. JOs work in print and broadcast media with public affairs officers and as independent journalists arranging public exhibits, demonstrations, speaking engagements, news conferences, VIP visits and ship- and shore-based tours. This is a five-year enlistment program.

What they do

The duties performed by JOs include:

- Gathering facts and write articles for publication in civilian and Navy newspapers and magazines
- Prepare stories for hometown news outlets
- Write feature articles on Naval activities and people
- Gather facts, write, and proofread news for radio and television outlets
- Prepare layouts for base papers and magazines
- Manage radio and television stations
- Manage ship or station newspapers and internet sites
- Write and produce radio and television programs
- Set up and/or conduct interviews
- Edit video and audio tape for television and radio broadcasts
- Write spot announcements (commercials) for radio and television
- Take news and feature still photographs
- Coordinate special events such as air shows and music concerts
- Advise and train apprentices in the JO rating
- Perform many of the functions of a Public Affairs Officer
- Maintain public affairs files and research files
- Market stories and photographs to the media for national or international dissemination

Credit Recommendations

The American Council on Education recommends that semester hour credits be awarded in the lower-division bachelor's/associate's degree categories for courses taken in this rating on news editing and reporting, writing for mass media, audiovisual technology, announcing, studio techniques, photography and layout.



Qualifications and Interests

Writing and speaking skills, creativity, curiosity and an interest in people, ideas and information are important qualifications for this rating. Also important are a good memory, maturity and good personal appearance. Other necessary qualities are the ability to do detailed work and keep records, a sense of teamwork and some degree of manual dexterity. JOs must be U.S. citizens, eligible for security clearances, and must be able to type at least 20 words per minute. A typing test is required prior to enlistment in this rating.

Working Environment

Navy Journalists do most of their work alone, with little supervision. Their work is primarily mental.

Opportunities

There are less than 600 men and women performing the duties of the journalist rating in the Navy. Opportunities for placement are fairly good for highly qualified candidates.

Related Civilian Jobs-Dept. of Labor Dictionary of Occupational Titles

Copy Writer
Reporter
Producer (Radio & Television)
Announcer (Radio & Television)
Manager, Production (Radio & Television)

Since Navy programs and courses are revised at times, the information contained on this rating card is subject to change.

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Career Path After Recruit Training

Enlistees are taught the fundamentals of this rating through formal Department of Defense schooling and on-the-job training. Advanced technical training is available in this rating during later stages of career development.

School	Present Location	Approximate Training Time	Subjects	Training Methods
Class "A" Phase I Basic Journalism School	Fort Meade, MD	12 Weeks	Newspaper journalism, news and feature writing, photojournalism, newspaper layout and design, public affairs and community relations	Group instruction and individual assignments
Phase II News reporting, video photography, radio production, video and digital editing and production	Fort Meade, MD	12 Weeks	Television and radio reporting, broadcast writing, announcing voice skills, and production skills	Group instruction and individual assignments

Advanced technical and operational training is available later. Most JO's first assignment is to a ship or overseas American Forces Radio and Television Service and Navy broadcast station. During a 20-year period in the Navy, Journalists usually spend 40 percent of their time assigned to ships at sea, and 60 percent to shore stations in the United States or overseas.

All personnel now receive sea pay at sea (E-1 to E-9).



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